PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Yoshiya TOMATSU

Application No.: New U.S. Patent Application

Filed: March 15, 2004 Docket No.: 119089

For: THERMAL FIXING DEVICE AND IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- 2. Relevance of the non-English language reference 3 is discussed in the present specification.
- 3. The present application was filed or entered the U.S. National Stage of the PCT after June 30, 2003. In accordance with the June 11, 2003, Notice waiving the requirements of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2)(i), copies of any U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.

- 4. English-language Abstracts of the non-English language references 2-6 are attached hereto.
- 5. A computer-generated English translation of the following Japanese Patent Publications have been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([http://www.jpo.go.jp]), and are attached, but have not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 3-6.

Respectfully submitted,

James A. Oliff

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JAO:TJP/emt

Date: March 15, 2004

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Form PTO-1449 US Dept. of Commerce (REV. 8-83) PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT				ATTY DOCKET NO. 119089			APPLICATION NO. New U.S. Patent Application		
(Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANTS				_	
					TOMATSU				
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		U.S.	PATI	ENT DOC	JMENTS				
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE			NAME		CLASS	SUB CLASS
	1	5,255,060	10/19/1993		Chikano				
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	1	FOREIC	GN PA	TENT DO	CUMENTS				
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	I	DATE		COUNTRY		CLASS	SUB CLASS
	2	JP A 63-85777 w/abstr.	04/1	6/1988	Japan				
	3	JP A 5-6118 w/abstr. + trans.	01/1	4/1993	Japan				
·	4	JP A 10-222002 w/abstr. + trans.	08/2	1/1998	Japan				
	5	JP A 2001-175114 w/abstr. + trans.	06/2	9/2001	Japan				
	6	JP A 10-31388 w/abstr. + trans.		3/1998	Japan				
		OTHER DOCUMENTS (Inc	ludin	g Author,	Title, Date, Po	ertinent Pages, etc.)			
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Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

DATE CONSIDERED

Date: March 15, 2004

EXAMINER

Examiner: